

Robert Chambers
Stratford

March 13, 2022

Dear Co-Chair Winfield, Co-Chair Stafstrom, Vice Chair Flexer, Vice Chair Blumenthal, Ranking Member Kissel, Ranking Member Fishbein, and all members of the Judiciary Committee:

I wish to register my strong **OPPOSITION** to governors bill SB No 16 also described as “An act addressing gun violence and juvenile crime”

I have read the proposed bill and don’t really see how this bill hopes to address gun violence nor juvenile crime. What I do see is an attempt to stifle the lawful gun owner in this state.

The only useful part of this bill would be the funding of the firearms trafficking task force which until it was defunded many years ago actually did do something to squash the use of firearms in unlawful hands (felons, juveniles, etc). This task force should never have been de-funded in the first place.

This bill absent the task force funding is an attack on lawful gun owners who commit few if any of the gun crimes in this state.

I also **OPPOSE** HB No 5416 which would limit a person to purchasing more than one firearm per month. Since all firearm purchases must go through state (and federal) background checks to get authorization all this will do is make lawful gun owners unable to add to their collections due to some arbitrary number. This is wrong!

I wish to **SUPPORT** raised bill HB 5415 - An act concerning the transfer of so-called assault weapons and “large” capacity magazines.

I also **SUPPORT** raised bill HB 5412 – An act concerning the duty to retreat in a religious house of worship.

I also wish to **SUPPORT** raised bill HB 388 – an act concerning the defense of a person, or a person's dwelling, place of work or motor vehicle.

The state could do more to stop the violence in the major cities and SB 16 and HB 5416 will not do it. The Connecticut State Police should properly fund the task force. That simple act followed through will make the lives of all residents in this state much safer, the rest of that bill will do nothing but infringe upon the rights of the state residents. Connecticut already has the most anti-gun-owner statutes on the books, most of which won't affect the safety of the residents.

Perhaps the judiciary should embark on a fact finding mission to see why most gun crime charges are the first ones plea-bargained away and seldom prosecuted. I think the results of this would be eye-opening and if acted upon would benefit the residents of the state more than infringing upon the rights of those that aren't committing those crimes.

I thank you for your time and efforts

Robert Chambers
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